

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Region 4 Central
 1234 East Shaw Avenue
 Fresno, CA 93710
 Contact: Steve Hulbert
 Phone: (559) 575-6415

Lead Agency

Madera County Resource Management Agency
 200 West 4th Street, 3rd Floor
 Madera, CA 93637
 Contact: Jamie Bax
 Phone: (559) 675-7821

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2010071036

Project Title: Austin Quarry Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2016-051-04 (ITP)), Major Amendment No. 1.

Project Location: The 672-acre Austin Quarry Project Site is located southwest of the intersection of State Route (SR) 145 and SR 41 in central Madera County approximately 12 miles east of the city of Madera, and includes between Highway 41 and the San Joaquin River, both north and south of Avenue 15, within Sections 4 and 5 of Township 11 South, Range 20 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian. This Major Amendment No. 1 revises the Project Location to include a portion of the SR 145 right-of-way which adjoins the Project Site to the north.

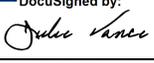
Project Description: The original Project involved the development and operation of a hardrock quarry over approximately half of the 672-acre Project site. The approximately 348-acre Quarry Area encompasses an aggregate mine that will not exceed 257-acres and a processing plant/operations/access road area that will not exceed 92 acres. Project implementation commenced in 2018. This Major Amendment No. 1 contemplates improvements to the SR 45 roadway to accommodate operation of the Project, which will increase permanent project related impacts to California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*, CTS) habitat by 1.55 acres, and will result in additional temporary impacts to 6.91 acres of CTS habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of CTS, which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The ITP amendment referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of implementation of the amended Project.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 2/5/2021 and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment (This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a responsible agency).
2. An environmental impact report / A negative declaration was prepared by the lead agency for the project.
3. Additional mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were not made/ were made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
 - Payment is submitted with this notice
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

Notice of Determination

Responsible Agency statement: The final EIR prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

Signature _____ **Date:** 2/5/2021
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Julie A. Vance, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____